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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07
AID-05 /068 W
----------032206Z 057880 /73
R 031630Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3963
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0008

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, GY
SUBJECT: STRAWS IN THE WIND/RUMORED CHANGES IN GOG

1. EMBOFFS HAVE BEEN HEARING RECENTLY OF RUMORED CABINET CHANGES AND REORGANIZATION TO TAKE PLACE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THESE CHANGES WILL PURPORTEDLY OCCUR IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1977 AS AN ECONOMY MEASURE AND ALSO TO INDICATE BURNHAM'S DISSATISFACTION WITH THE RESPECTIVE MINISTERS' PERFORMANCE.

2. THOSE CABINET OFFICERS REPORTEDLY ON SHAKY GROUND ARE GEORGE KING, MINISTER FOR TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION, SHIRLEY FIELD-RIDLEY, MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURE, HAMILTON GREEN, MINISTER OF COOPERATIVES AND NATIONAL MOBILISATION, AND DESMOND HOYTE, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION MAY ALSO CUT THE NUMBER OF REGIONAL MINISTERS FROM SIX TO THREE.

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3. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, SHIRLEY FIELD-RIDLEY IS MOST VULNERABLE MINISTER. BURNHAM'S REPORTED DESIRE IS TO PLACE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION WITHIN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA), WITH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF THE MINISTRY BEING ASSIGNED TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. RUDY COLLINS HAS RETURNED TO

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HIS POSITION AS PERMANENT SECRETARY OF MFA WITH
LLOYD SEARWAR NOW RUMORED TO BECOME THE NEW
INFORMATION CHIEF, A POST HE PREVIOUSLY HELD
DURING THE JAGAN ADMINISTRATION. COLLINS TOLD
CHARGE THAT HE WAS RECALLED FOR DUTY AT MFA
EARLIER THAN ANTICIPATED TO ASSIST
IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING OF GUYANESE
CHIEFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS TO BE HELD IN
GEORGETOWN JANUARY 10-15.

4. FIELD-RIDLEY'S HUSBAND, HAMILTON GREEN,
CURRENT MINISTER OF COOPERATIVES AND NATIONAL
MOBILISATION, IS REPORTEDLY IN LINE TO BECOME
NEXT GUYANESE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO LONDON.
HIS MINISTRY WILL BE ABSORBED INTO
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER, DR. PTOLOMEY REID.

5. PROPOSED CHANGES REPORTEDLY STEM FROM: (A)
BURNHAM'S DISPLEASURE OVER INCREASINGLY ACRIMONIOUS
RELATIONS WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED DURING RECENT MONTHS
BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER FRED WILLS AND FIELD-
RIDLEY REGARDING GOG INFORMATION POLICY; AND,
(B) HAMILTON GREEN'S APPARENT INABILITY TO LAUNCH
A SIGNIFICANT AND VIABLE NATIONAL COOPERATIVES
PROGRAM.

6. ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE, ANNOUNCEMENT OF CABINET
CHANGES, WHICH HE DEFINED AS A "CONTRACTION"
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RATHER THAN "REDUCTION" OF CABINET POSITIONS,
WILL BE MADE BY BURNHAM DURING HIS BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATIONS IN FEBRUARY OR DURING FIRST HALF OF
MARCH. IF ABOVE CABINET CHANGES DO COME ABOUT,
IT WILL CERTAINLY INDICATE THAT FONMIN WILLS
WILL HAVE WON OUT IN A POWER STRUGGLE OVER
CABINET RADICALS FIELD-RIDLEY AND GREEN.
MCCOY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 3674296
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRAWS IN THE WIND/RUMORED CHANGES IN GOG
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, GY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c3e2e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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